

REMARKS

By this Amendment, Applicants: amend claims 1-7, 7, 9-16, and 18-19; cancel claim 26; and add new claims 27-28. Accordingly, claims 1-25 and 27-28 remain pending in the application.

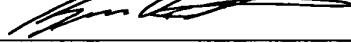
Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter this Preliminary Amendment, allow claims 1-25 and 27-28, and pass the application to issue. In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Kenneth D. Springer (Reg. No. 39,843) at (571) 283-0720 to discuss these matters.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0238 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16, 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, or 37 C.F.R. § 1.492, including extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

VOLENTINE FRANCOS & WHITT, P.L.L.C.

Date: 19 December 2005

By: 
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